

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated November 4, 2008 Applicants have filed this Amendment in which claims 1-6, 8-14, and 15-19 have been cancelled. Claims 7, 14, and 20 have been amended. Claims 7, 14, and 20 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 14, and 20 are independent.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 7, 14, and 20. Claims 7, 14, and 20 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit the claims are in condition for formal allowance which is courteously solicited. If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard. The Examiner's attention is also drawn to the proper attorney docket number as shown below. Should any fees be necessitated by this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct such fees from Deposit Account No. 11-0160.

Applicants' request for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) as well as Applicants' petition fee are enclosed herewith and filed simultaneously with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/3/2009


William B. Kircher
Reg. No. 22,481
Husch Blackwell Sanders LLP
4801 Main St., Suite 1000
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-983-8000
ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT